



## Determination of Homologous of Ivermectin H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1a</sub> And H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1b</sub> in Tablets by High Performance Liquid Chromatography Coupled to High Resolution Mass Analyzer Detector (Q-TOF)

Grazielle P. ALEXANDRE, Cintia M.A. MOTHÉ, Helen D. LEITE, María S. AURORA-PRADO,  
Luiz R. SILVA, Renato L. ROMANO, Bruno D. RONDON, Anil K. SINGH,  
Erika R.M. KEDOR-HACKMANN, Maria I.R. M. SANTORO \*

*Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences,  
University of São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil.*

**SUMMARY.** Ivermectin is an antiparasitic drug used in several pharmaceutical formulations. The objective of this research is to develop and validate a high performance liquid chromatographic (HPLC) method for quantification of two homologous of ivermectin (H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1a</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1b</sub>) in tablets and identify the molecular species by Q-TOF LC/MS technique. The method of quantification of ivermectin (H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1a</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1b</sub>) was validated using a LichroCart® 100 RP-18 (125 x 4 mm, 5 µm) column. The mobile phase was constituted of acetonitrile and water 95:5 (v/v) with 1% acetic acid, the flow rate was 1.0 mL/min, and the UV detection was made at 245 nm. Solutions were prepared in solvent containing 190.12 µg/mL (H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1a</sub>) and 5.72 µg/mL (H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1b</sub>). The method showed to be precise, selective, accurate and robust, and was successfully applied for determination of the two homologous of ivermectin (H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1a</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1b</sub>) in tablets.

**RESUMEN.** La ivermectina es un fármaco antiparasitario utilizado en varias formulaciones farmacéuticas. El objetivo de esta investigación es desarrollar y validar un método de cromatografía líquida de alto rendimiento (HPLC) para la cuantificación de dos homólogos de la ivermectina (H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1a</sub> y H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1b</sub>) en tabletas e identificar las especies moleculares mediante la técnica Q-TOF LC/MS. El método de cuantificación de la ivermectina (H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1a</sub> y H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1b</sub>) se validó usando una columna LiChroCart® 100 RP-18 (125 x 4 mm, 5 µm). La fase móvil estaba constituida por acetona y agua 95:5 (v/v) con ácido acético al 1%, la velocidad de flujo fue de 1,0 mL/min y la detección UV se realizó a 245 nm. Las soluciones se prepararon en solvente conteniendo 190,12 µg/mL de H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1a</sub> y 5,72 µg/mL de H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1b</sub>. El método demostró ser preciso, selectivo, seguro y robusto y se aplicó con éxito para la determinación de los dos homólogos de la ivermectina (H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1a</sub> y H<sub>2</sub>B<sub>1b</sub>) en tabletas.

**KEY WORDS:** HPLC, Ivermectin, Mass Q-TOF LC/MS, Method validation, Tablets.

\* Author to whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: ines@usp.br